
Remarks upon Mr. S-----y C-----s's
Letter to the Marquis of Montele-
one, &c.

*Materia ad omnia utuntur in formi & citra speciem aut
delectationem. Tacitus de moribus Germanorum.*

The Introduction.

TH E Candor, Frankness, Civility and affable Temper wherein Mr. C-----s so eminently outshines his Brethren of the Ministry, should have screen'd him from any Share in the following Remarks, had he not lent his Name to that poor Performance, Entituled, Mr. C-----s his Letter, &c. I am inform'd all their great Heads have been laid together to compose it; That the Wit of the whole Party hath been ransack'd on this Occasion; and, That many of their best Judges, do really think it a notable Piece: Such I own it is, for Inconsistence, for Impropriety in Stile, for Defect in Sense and Argument, and for being throughout worthy of the Hands from which it comes. But Mr. C-----s, who it is to be presumed, picqueth himself more upon being a fine Gentleman than an able Secretary, and whose Talents seem best suited for the former Office, is wholly to be excus'd. And therefore, with his Permission, I would propose one Amendment to his Letter, and that is, That insterd of J. C-----s, in all future Editions it may be sign'd by the Name of Legion, which will take in all the Persons concern'd



TH E present War, into which the Ministry hath plunged the Nation, being in its Nature and Circumstances altogether extraordinary, it is no Wonder if the Reasons given for it be out of Form, and wholly Defective. The War is an *Amicable* War: We do the best we can to destroy the King of Spain's Fleets and Armies, fall upon him without any regular Declaration, unprovoked, and not tempted by any national Views, yet (as Mr. C——s in the Name of the K. is pleas'd to assert) *there is a Friendship that hath hitherto subsisted and doth yet subsist between K. G. and his Catholick Majesty; i. e. a Friendship that remained till now, and doth now remain, even long after the Sea-Engagement.* But without putting Mr. C——s to the Trouble of reconciling this seeming Contradiction, it may not be improper to weigh the Reasons he hath been ordered by K. G. to publish in defence of Sir G. B. and the Ministry; whereby likewise every Englishman may discern, with what Pretences he is to be fed, in return for the Millions the Nation is to expend to maintain the War, and the Millions She is to lose by the Want of Trade.

I think the Whole of this Royal Apology amounts to these Particulars. *The Spanish Fleet began the Hostilities; the Action of Sir G. B. Ought by no means to appear surprizing to his Catholick Majesty; some Hardships are complain'd of in point of Trade. Insinuations were dropt at Madrid about the Pretender: And lastly, the Spaniards invaded Sicily.* Whoever will read over this Letter, will find, That the Particulars which relate to us and our Interest, are not pretended as the Grounds of our Quarrel, but only by an After-reckoning are thrown in to amuse the English; the Mystery of which is, after the Ministry had given the Blow and involved us upon the Emperor's Account in a ruinous War, they are now to fish for Pretences to render it palatable, and these are They which have been collected with some Pains and great Prevarication in Mr. C——s's Letter.

The First of these is a Fact roundly asserted by Mr. C——s, as a thing indubitable ; though in reality a manifest Fiction, and a Fiction that hath not the least Colour or Degree of Probability to support it. The Flying-Post indeed of the 18th of October, in an Article from Leghorn relates, That Admiral B. Has procured many Certificates to prove, that the Spanish Fleet first fired upon him. I would be glad to see those Witnesses produced in Westminster-Hall, and how well our Alliances, our Treaties, the Publick Faith and Honour of the English Name can be justified by a few Knights of the Post of Admiral B's Crew.

Sir G. B. in his Letter to the Marquis de Lede the 29th of July, O. S. tells him, *He hath Orders to use Force if the Marquis would not agree to a Suspension of Arms.* So, his Intention and Orders to attack the Spanish Fleet are fairly own'd ; consequently, which ever Side began the Hostilities, the Ministry, or whoever they were, that gave those Orders, are answerable for them. The Marquis de Lede refusing to agree to the Suspension demanded, Sir G. B. in execution of his Pretended Orders, pursues the Spanish Fleet with all the Sail he can make, for twenty Leagues, I think, overtakes it in a Calm, surrounds Part of it, destroys all he can, and yet according to Mr. C——s and the Author of the Flying-Post, the Spaniards, who had fled as fast and as far as they could, began the Hostilities. The Meaning of which I conceive to be, They began the Hostilities because they did not tamely suffer Sir G. B. to board and seize every One of them, without their firing a single Gun in their Defence.

The Truth of the Fact is, the Spaniards fired when they were attacked, and not before ; I mean that Part of their Fleet surrounded by Sir G. B. and vastly inferior to him in the Number of Men and Force of Ships ; and this Mr. C——s seems fully sensible of, by waving the Fact, as a Circumstance no way material, though the Court-Pensioners and little Bullies for the Party have swallowed it, absurd as it is, as the chief

Drug to keep up their Spirits. But it is to be presumed, when this Affair comes to be *examined by a Parliament of Great Britain*, they will have the Honour of their Country more at Heart, than to be blinded by so *wretched an Artifice*, or to suffer the Authors of this whole Transaction to go unpunished.

I am to observe a little kind of *Perplexity* in Mr. C——s telling his own Story. Having said, that the *Spaniards began the Hostilities*, he tells you, *This Action might be very well expected by the Spaniards*; that is, the *Spaniards were to expect their own beginning the Hostilities*. But not to dwell upon a Circumstance, which only shows the want of Skill in the Writer, let us take the Sense as he meant it, and then it is, *That the Spaniards might very well expect to be attacked*: and the Reason why they were to expect it, was, *Because Admiral B. wrote a Letter ever since the 20th of July, O. S. representing such Engagements as the K. found himself under to Guarantee the Neutrality of Italy*.

Setting aside the Impropriety of the Expression, (*Ever Since*) the Substance of what that Letter contained, was, *That K. G. was resolved to defend the Emperor's Dominions in Italy, if attacked by the Spaniards, and in that Case to use open Force*. To this Cardinal *Alberoni* returned a haughty Answer, as Mr. C——s calls it, namely, *That the Admiral had nothing to do but to follow his Orders*. The better to understand this we are to observe, That when Sir G. B. wrote his Letter, he knew nothing of the Design against *Sicily*, and mentioned nothing of it in his Letter to the *Spanish Court*: All he said was, as appears by his Letter published from the *Escorial*, in the *Gazettee* 27th of September, That if his *Catholick Majesty* continues in the Resolution that his Troops shall attack the *Emperor's Territories in Italy*, then he (the Admiral) is commanded by the King his Master, to use all the Power of his Fleet, &c. to defend the *Emperor's Territories in Italy*. The Cardinal knowing there was no
Design

Design upon Italy, could not, even with Mr. C——s's Assistance, have return'd a more direct or proper Answer. And this Excuse is so far from clearing up the Matter in favour of the Ministry, that it sets their Breach of Faith in the strongest Light: Because Sir G. B. having said, That his Orders were to use Force in the Defence of Italy, the *Spaniards* were thereby deceived into a Security that their Fleet was safe, as being designed only against *Sicily*. Had they not Reason therefore to be surprized at the Insult offered them after this Signification from Admiral B. of his Orders, and when long after this Lord S——e came to *Madrid* under the Notion of amicably composing all Differences?

The next Proof why this Action ought by no means to appear surprizing to his Catholick Majesty is, because Admiral B. on the 29th of July, O.S. sent another Letter to the Marquis de Lede, repeating to him the same Things he had written to Madrid. This with Submission, is false in Fact: For in this second Letter the Admiral, (by whose Orders it was, he is best able to say) inserts *Sicily* as included in his Orders, whereas not a word of *Sicily* was mentioned in that Letter to *Madrid*. Thus far I will grant Mr. C——s, That the Marquis de Lede had some Reason to expect this Action, because he was acquainted with Sir G. B's new Orders, or at least with his Resolutions; but why it was to be expected at Madrid, from this second Letter, of which, or the new Orders, his Catholick Majesty could then know nothing, I leave to Mr. C——s to explain.

But was it to be expected that K. G. and his Ministry should engage in a Quarrel no way relating to *England*, expressly against their Treaties with *Spain*, contrary to the Welfare of *England*, and tending to break the Ballance of Power in *Europe*? Ought it by no Means to appear Surprizing, That a Prince of a Trading Nation, should unnecessarily and

precipitately become Principal in a War, against that Country from which the greatest Wealth of his People flows? Could it be imagin'd that K. G. who so often since his accession to the Throne, hath expressed a tender Concern for the Load of Debt and Taxes under which the Nation groans, should enter upon such Measures as must infinitely increase that Load, and at the same Time render his People less able to pay the usual Taxes? Could all this and much worse be expected, unless we were to suppose England to be a Province of the Empire, under the Discipline of a German Viceroy, obliged to fight the German Battels, and to sacrifice every Thing, Honour and Interest, to aggrandize the House of Austria?

Besides, Was it to be expected that all K. G's Speeches and Messages to the Parliament should vanish into Air; when his Majesty declared so often, That he had formed such Projects, and entered upon such Negotiations as would settle a perfect Tranquility in Europe? Was it ever understood, that to this Purpose he was to use more than friendly Offices? And is it by no Means surprizing, That instead of all these boasted Schemes; instead of procuring Peace for others, the Ministry should run the K. and Kingdom into a War, by which we are to lose both Fame and Profit? Might not his Catholick Majesty naturally argue, That how Passionate and Self interested soever the Ministry may be, they will not venture to be answerable to a Parliament for the grossest Delusions ever imposed upon the Nation? This was not to be conceived, untill the old English Spirit were degenerated into an abandoned Slavery to every corrupt Minister, and untill the Houses of Lords and Commons were to be filled with nothing but Heydukes and Hussars.

Mt. C——s, in the Prosecution of his Argument, says further, That Cardinal Alberoni had Notice given him, not only by my Lord S———'s demand of a Passport, in Case of a Rupture, but by his communicating to him the five Articles, &c. Let us see how
this

this can be made out. The Demand of such a Passport was indeed a Sort of Hint of Lord S——s' Fears, but no Notification of a succeeding Rupture; nor sufficient to induce Spain to alter her Conduct. It might have proceeded from the known Wisdom or superabundant Caution of the Earl; who, tho' a brave General, was yet a consummate Politician. Neither was the Demand to be interpreted as an Act of K. G's, but only a Piece of Discretion in his Minister. And besides, although it should be admitted that this Demand of a Passport were Notice, yet it came too late, and could only make the King of Spain's Surprise of an earlier Date, for he had as much Reason to be surprized at such a Notice that he was to be attacked in that outrageous Manner, as at the Account of the Action. The Communication of the five Articles, which Mr. C——s calls giving Notice, was yet later still; not before the 13th of July N. S. the Day after the Action passed. So that this Notice, which Mr. C——s hath laid such Stress upon, was given only a few Days before the Hostilities were begun, or the Day after: In either of which Case, I would ask Mr. C——s, What that Notice did signify? How could it prevent the Effusion of Blood? Or the unhappy Consequences likely to attend the present War?

One might have expected that in all Decency, and out of Tenderness to the Earl of S——e's Character, some Veil might have been drawn over his Journey to Spain; or at least that his Friends might say nothing of a Passage which represents him making the worst Figure in the World; either a hearty Volunteer in an unworthy Act, if he did know what was to happen; or if he did not, as **An Insignificant Tool of a Ministry. (*Vide Dr. Sacheverel's Tryal.)* Suppose he had succeeded in his Proposals of an Accommodation and been detain'd in Spain, in what Danger had been the Life of that noble Patriot from an enrag'd Populace, when the News of Sir G. B's treacherous Victory had reached them! I believe hardly any Age

can produce an Example of such a Proceeding. At the Instant that K. G. by Lord S———, was, as a good Friend and a good Brother to the King of *Spain*, (so Mr. C——s calls him) mediating a Peace between him and the Emperor; this Mediator of Peace, this good Friend, this good Brother, had given Orders to his Admiral, to find out and destroy the *Spanish Fleet*; and at that Instant his Admiral had actually put his Orders in Execution: At the News of which K. G. like a good Friend, was so transported, he had a Bonfire for Joy made at Hampton Court, where he publickly, as much like a K. as good Brother, drank Sir G. B's Health.

At the Close of Mr. C——s's Account of this Matter, he adds these Words ——— and his Eminence declared to Coll. S———e. the K——'s Minister, that he well foresaw what might happen, without endeavouring to prevent it, by seeking to obtain, &c. To make this Sense and Intelligible it should be; His Eminence declared he foresaw, &c. yet did not endeavour, &c. This Foresight of his Eminence must have been after our pretended Notice given him, and then it was but a little before the Action happened, or the Day after: So it is imputed as a Crime to his Eminence, That he did not endeavour to prevent that which had already happened, or which must have happened long before any Order to the contrary could reach *Sicily* and the Fleets. Might it not tempt one to think these People Bungle thus on purpose, when there is scarce any one Assertion made in the K——'s Name, and in his Behalf, that is not either Absurd, a Misrepresentation, a downright Falshood, or destructive of the Thing it is advanced to prove?

Throughout this Letter we frequently meet with his M——'s concern to procure a Suspension of Arms, and his Resentment at the Invasion of *Sicily*, which is given as the immediate Occasion of the War. How comes all this Concern about? How came it to be the Business of *England* to Interpose in that Matter?
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Would it not have been wiser in us to have sat still, suffered the contending Parties to weary themselves and exhaust their Forces, whilst we might encrease our Wealth, or pay our Debts? *The Invasion of Sicily* (saith Mr. C——) *is directly contrary to the Execution of Dispositions made by Treaties, &c.* I have heard of Bravoes, who, when they have engaged to assassinate any one, reckon themselves obliged in Honour and Conscience to execute their Dispositions. But still Mr. C——'s Answer leaves the Difficulty where it was. Why were such Treaties, such Dispositions made? If the Ministry have made any such Treaties which have brought on this War, they are accountable for those Treaties, and the Consequences thereof.

We are told of our being Guarantees of the Neutrality of *Italy*; and last Sessions of Parliament Lord S——e told the House of Lords, that we were so by the 11th Article of the Treaty of *Utrecht*; after which, in the Course and Hurry of his Rhetorick, his Lordship thus expressed himself ‘ K. G. who is not ashamed to shew his Face wherever he goes, doth not want an Army to defend him, but only to give him Credit abroad, in order to settle a Peace in *Europe*, and he is now so far Master of his Project, that I will venture to Prophecy, we shall soon see the Effect of the Wisdom of his Counsels in a general Tranquility.’ But it happens very unluckily for us, Lord S——e hath proved as far out in his Prophecies, as he was in his Politics. As to the latter, the Bishop of *London* shew'd the House, that we were to Guarantee the Neutrality of *Italy*, only until Peace should be made between the Emperor and *France*, *usq; ad futuram pacem cum Gallia paxendam*. Every one knows, that Peace was made at *Baden*; consequently, our Guaranteehip ceased; until Lord S——e, out of the Plenitude of his Power, thought fit to revive it; and Mr. C—— to second him in that Undertaking, tho' the latter hath thrown his Assertion into a looser and more general Form.

As to Lord S——:’s Prophecy, which was grounded on the * famous Project to procure such a Peace, as *shall put it out of the Power of any State or Prince in Europe to disturb the same*; (* Vid. Message to the H. of Com.) it is as far from being fulfilled as ever. This puts me in mind of another famous Prophecy from the same Author. At the Time of the Death of the late King of Spain, he prophesied, That 99 in 100 of the *Spaniards* would declare against King Philip, and told the House of Commons, He would be content to be hanged up at their Door, if he did not conquer Spain with 6000 Men; to which old Sir Edward Seymour returned answer, That if we should engage in a War upon the Strength of that honourable Member’s Word, and should happen to fail of Success, he was afraid it would be no great Recompence to the Parliament, to see that little black Gentleman dangling at their Door; and I fear if the Forfeiture should be demanded of him now, it would hardly make us amends for the Part he hath acted.

With his Lordship’s Leave, in my Turn, I will venture for once at a Prediction; That this pacifick Project will take place just at the same Instant of Time, that the famous German Projector lately arrived to find out the Longitude, shall receive the 20,000 l. promised by the Commons for that Service.

But to return to the Invasion of Sicily, and even of Italy, I cannot imagine to my self one single Reason why England should resent it. Certainly if we had any Interest in the Affair of those Kingdoms, it would be to curb the exorbitant Power of the Emperor, and to deliver the Italian Princes from the German Domination: Otherwise it is to be feared, the Eagle, who hath always shewn his Claws, may in Time stretch his Wings, to the Ruin of our Friends the Dutch, and it may be to our own. The old English Maxim was, To preserve the Balance of Power in Europe: But instead of this we are fallen into a new Romantick Scheme; To preserve the Peace of Europe by enabling the Germans to conquer it: Just as Don Quixote set the Galley

ley Slaves free, out of a Design to right Wrongs and reform the World : And probably we shall meet with as great Returns of Gratitude as he did.

It is not my Province to defend the King of *Spain's Title to Sicily* ; although I think it as good as some others in veneration among us. Cardinal *Alberoni* hath fully justify'd his Master's Proceedings, and shewn, That his Eminence really doth know how to display the Dignity of the Crown of *Spain* ; so that there need be nothing more added on that Head : But the irregular Conduct of our Ministry is seen in all they say or do, and such as all their clumsy Dawbing will never be able to hide : And however they may endeavour to perplex the Cause, by an affected Jargon, the King of *Spain* had as much Right to enter into a War, tending to obstruct the Execution of Dispositions made by Treaties, as we had to make any such Treaties at all : And, under Favour, I think he had a great deal more Right to it, both because he was immediately concerned in the Succession to *Sicily*, and we not in the least ; and because he hath pursued the Intent of the Treaty of *Utrecht*, and we have acted in direct opposition to it ; as is evident from the 7th Article of that Treaty. By that Article there was to be a *Perpetual Amity and Friendship from the Duke of Savoy to the King of Spain* ; but if that Amity, &c. should cease, which is not to be feared ; and if the King of *Sicily* should, upon any Account whatever break the same, then *Sicily* was immediately to devolve to the Crown of *Spain*. Moreover, by that Treaty the Reversion of *Sicily* belonged to the Crown of *Spain*, in case of failure of Heirs to the Duke of *Savoy* ; but by our own Informations, the King of *Sicily* hath been treating with the Emperor to give him *Sicily*, and for ever to alienate it from *Spain* ; and we our selves have actually, by the Quadruple Alliance, pretended to dispose of that Kingdom to his Imperial Majesty ; whereby it appears, that both we, and the King of *Sicily*, have manifestly broke the Treaty of *Utrecht* in two essential Points,

Points, whilst the King of *Spain* hath acted in pursuance thereof, and in defence of his own Right.

Mr. C——s having dispatched his foreign Reasons for our falling upon the *Spanish* Fleet, presents us with several kind Quarrels he hath to the King of *Spain*; some with relation to the Pretender, and some with regard to Trade; and these have been since reinforced by a Representation from the South-Sea Company. Not that these make any thing to his Argument, but to supply the Brethren with a Twig for Clamour. The Complaints relating to the Pretender are *querelles de Alleman*, literally speaking: Whereas in justice to the King of *Spain*, he deserves all our Thanks for never attempting to create a powerful Diversion to damp all our Projects at once. What is said about Trade and Merchants being in general, and besides being answered in Cardinal *Alberoni's* Letters, I shall not meddle with them, but shall take notice of two of the Articles of the Representation, by which you may judge of the rest.

The first Article which seems of most moment is, That the Bedford of 600 Tons, laden and bound for the *South-Sea*, arrived at Carthagena; the Cargo was there measured by unwarrantable Rules of the Custom-house Officers, who stopt and would confiscate the better Part of it, under Pretence, that it exceeded vastly the 600 Tons allowed by the King of *Spain's* License for her to carry. Complaint hereof was made to the King of *Spain*, who ordered a re-measurement, and so the whole was restored to the Company: But it seems the Custom-house Officers were not punished. So here it is not pretended there was any Fault committed by the Court of *Madrid*; on the contrary, upon Complaint, the Company had immediate redress. And tho' the Custom-house Officers were not turned out for the Care they took of their Master's Interest; yet I do not conceive That to be a capital Crime. Nay, I am well informed by those who are understanding in these Affairs, that the Officers did but their
their

their Duty ; for the Bedford actually exceeded the 600 Tons above half in half ; but the *King of Spain* out of pure Grace and Indulgence to the English, suffered it to pass as they were pleased to measure it.

The other Article is the last of all, the 25th, and relates to a French Agent who encroached upon the Rights of the Company ; for which they went to Law with him and cast him at Havana, where the *Spaniards* are Judges, but the Man hath appealed to the Court of *Madrid*. I would fain know whether the Company are aggrieved because the Agent hath appealed, which legally he might do ; or, because the *Spanish* Judges determined the Law-suit in their favour : and I wish a little of the Justice of those *Spanish* Courts might be transfused into our Commissioners for forfeited Estates, whereby Numbers of poor Widows and Orphans might be preserved from starving.

Read over all the Articles of these formidable Representations and you will find them of the same Stamp ; either groundless, or Confessions of Favour and Justice done the Company, or at most, frivolous Chicaning. I am sorry the Directors suffered themselves to be drawn in to so ungrateful and impolitick a Step ; wherein they have become the Dupes of a Ministry, who to serve their own Ends, have wantonly exposed the Trade of the Company and Nation to be entirely ruined.

But for ever to silence the Ministry on the Point of Trade, and to satisfy the Nation how little that Particular was considered in the Quarrel, it is notorious, That the *South-Sea* Company never complained of their Grievances to the Chevalier d'Eon, who was the *K. of Spain's* Agent here with the Company ; and that neither in Sir G. B——'s Letters, nor Lord S——'s five Articles, neither yet in any Article of the Quadruple Alliance, was there ever one Word about our Trade, nor the least Complaint made of the Difficulties it laboured under. But our whole Concern

is employed upon Satisfaction to be given the Emperor ; upon defending the Emperor's Dominions ; upon procuring new Territories for him. Surely we must be allowed the most disinterested People in the World, who labouring under so many Hardships in our Trade from the King of Spain, could yet throw all That out of the Question, compass Sea and Land to get a Province for the Emperor, and be so far from taking Care of our selves, that for his sake, we throw away the two most beneficial Branches of the Trade we had, That to Spain and the Levant.

Mr. C——s having contented himself with the bare mention of some Facts, proceeds, in the King's Name, to touch upon other Complaints of an inferior Nature ; such as Menaces to seize the English Effects ; so then the seizure of the English Effects is a Matter of an inferior Nature, altho' by the wise Conduct of the Ministry and this Matter of an inferior Nature, many, very many of our wealthiest Merchants are now Bankrupts, and above half the Exchange reels and is in a very tottering Condition.

But these Menaces were made, notwithstanding the Treaty, which declares in so many Words, *That six Months should be allowed each Party, even in Case of an open Ruptured.* But it was not said in so many Words, nor could it be expected, That six Months or one Hour should be allowed in Case of Treachery, And I say, and so doth the whole World That to fall upon a Friend and Ally, with the Circumstances Admiral B. hath done, is Treachery, or there never was any such Thing in Nature.

To these Menaces are annex'd *Insinuations drop'd at Madrid of domestick Troubles, and the Pretender ; Advices from many Quarters of intrigues and Negotiations, &c.* To all which (says Mr. C——s) his Majesty gives no Credit: Then why doth his Majesty complain? Observe the Inconsistence of these Men ; First, his Majesty commands Mr. C——s to make Complaints of a superior and inferior Nature ; and then, to say this Majesty doth not believe them. The Contradiction is too close to be excused, upon any Allowances, for the Stile of a Secretary.

Some Instances are next enlarged upon, wherein K. G. hath shewn his Friendship to the King of Spain. One is, That he hath not only sought but found Means to make the Emperor for ever to renounce his Pretensions to the Crown of Spain. How the most
August

August House may like this Language from the Elector of Brünswick, I am not able to say ; or what Means have been sought or found to make the Emperor submit ; but I fear this Favour done the King of Spain, is one of those Favours which deserves no Thanks. First, the King of Spain did not desire him to do it, therefore it was officious ; Next, it was done upon such Terms as the King of Spain cannot accept, but to the Prejudice of either his Honour or Intrest ; and, perhaps, this is the best Reason can be given for its being done at all. Lastly, the Renunciation of the Pretensions made when the Emperor was in no Condition to support them, and they may at a proper Season be revived with Success, if our Wise Peaceful Project goes on.

But over and above this, there are a Train of negative Merits, which Mr. C——s hath found out for K. G. towards the King of Spain : And his Majesty hath been so good not to libel him, not to foment a Rebellion, not to exasperate his Subjects against him, &c. Suppose Lord S——e should come behind his Brother Secretary's Back, and without any Provocation, draw out his Sword and run him through, would it not be pleasant to hear his Lordship say, ' My good Brother and Friend, you are much obliged to me, because I did not throw ' Dirt at you ; because I have been far from calling you out of ' your Name ; because I have been farther yet from stirring ' on your Wife and Children against you. This, no doubt, would be a very great Consolation to Mr. C——s almost as great as it is to his Majesty to have Brothers in Affliction, and that he hath had a Treatment something better yet than the Emperor and King of Sicily.

Having waded through a good deal of Mr. C——s's Obscurities, I am at length got where he begins to write plain Truth. *His Majesty (saith he) doth not desire any Advantage for his Subjects more than what they were to have by the Treaties between the two Crowns.* This I do believe in my Conscience. Altho' methinks it sounds somewhat oddly from that Quarter. See how Malice blinds and leads Men into Blunders ! in order to fling at the late Queen and her Ministers, it is said: *The Peace of Utrecht was made to such Circumstances as his Majesty hopes the Catholick King will acknowledge Great-Britain was not exorbitant in her Demands.* i. e. the Queen and her Ministry bid not demand enough. I am sure Mr. C——s will think any one dull, that doth not take this to be the Meaning : So then it is plain he lies open on the other Side ; since the Question is obvious, Why doth not his Majesty desire more Advantages for his Subjects ? Having Rancour in his Heart, he was forced to squeeze the Sense in this Paragraph till he exposed the Folly of his Argument.

I beg, says, Mr. C——s, your Excellency to reflect, that the King has demanded no new Advantage, &c. But is rather en-
clined

clined to sacrifice something of his own, to procure the general Quiet and Tranquility, &c. Here then the mighty Secret is out. The Ministry demand no new Advantage for the Subjects of Great Britain; on the contrary, they are ready to sacrifice some of the Advantages the Britains enjoy to procure the general Quiet. i. e. to procure for the Emperor, Italy and Sicily; Bremen and Vherden for the House of Brunswick: And for themselves as great Titles and as much Wealth, as they shall deserve by thus infamously sacrificing the Honour and Welfare of the English Nation to a foreign Intrest. I appeal to the World if this be not the fair, natural Construction of this Paragraph, and if it can possibly be understood in any other Sense? K. G. in his first Speech from the Throne, and almost in every one since, hath express'd great Tenderneſs on the Score of our publick Debts, and talk'd of easing his People of Taxes, not without severe Lashes on the late Queen's Conduct, as if too unthrifty. But I know not how it hath happened, the four Years of his peaceful Reign have proved like *Pharaoh's thin and ill-favoured Kine*; for we are some Millions the Poorer since his Accession, as may be seen in Mr. Hutchinson's State of the Publick Debts. So that one cannot but be convinced, that let the Fault lie where it will; from whatsoever Source our Misery doth flow; let the Ministry coin whatever Cant they please, to supply their Followers with a *routine* of Words without Sense, the Nation is betray'd to a Company of Harpies, that care not what becomes of us, whilst their Maws are gorged. *Jealousies, Restless Party, Fears of the Pretender* are all compounded together with our mighty Projects, and she is in a fair Way to be managed by our skilful Ministry, by the same Rules of Art, by which a certain Quack physicked a Lady of my acquaintance out of the World. When the poor Woman was ready to expire, he told her, one Dose more would do her Business; and I think we are come to that pass, That one Project more will do ours. This the Ministry will have compassed, if they can get the Parliament to approve of the Spanish War; and we must sit down under this single, solitary Comfort, that Poor and Beggary as we shall be, we may have the Honour to be mentioned in a Medal struck at Vienna, and to be stiled his Imperial Majesty's Auxiliaries.

F I N I S.

